of interest. New range extensions in distributions of individual species are likely to be added for many taxa, particularly in the Channel Islands of California. Some of the chemical species may not be acceptable to all.

This monograph is essential for any lichenologist who collects or works with lichens of the Pacific coast of the Americas. It also is highly recommended to ecologists and systematists interested in desert and fog zones. The moderate price of the paperback makes this book accessible to nearly everyone, including students.

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—Shirley C. Tucker, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106.

California's Forests and Woodlands: A Natural History, By Verna R. Johnson. 1994. The University of California Press, Berkeley. x+222 pages. Hardcover $30. ISBN 0-520-08324-5.

The title, *California's Forests and Woodlands,* sounds, at first hearing, like one of those encyclopedic tomes that culminates a researcher's career. Perhaps that was hopeful thinking on my part (wouldn't it be great to have such a reference?), but this readable, 222-page book is closer in spirit and substance to *An Island Called California* (Bakker 1984). The book's stated purpose is "to bring hours of pleasurable, informative reading and an increased awareness of the priceless heritage of California's forests and their wildlife", and this it does quite well.

Johnston's book centers around conifers. This initially seemed odd to me, since I grew up in southern California, where oaks dominate, but Johnston argues that a) most of California's forests and woodlands are dominated by conifers, b) California has a great (unrivaled?) diversity of conifers, and c) oak woodlands and forests are already covered in the *Oaks of California* (Pavlik et al. 1991). In any case, conifers dominate the book's structure, which is organized around the different coniferous forests of California. Each chapter covers a different forest type, with topics including redwood forests, north coastal forests, mixed douglas-fir forests, closed-cone pines and cypresses, foothill woodlands, giant sequoia groves, upper montane and subalpine forests, and pinyon pines/juniper woodland. The intricacies of the Klamath region are segregated into their own chapter. Rounding out the book are an introductory chapter on identifying conifers and a concluding chapter on the ongoing conservation problems faced by California's forests and tips on how to get involved in the battle.

Each of the main chapters starts with the dominant conifers and works outwards, covering species ranges, associated plants, ecology, and the like, painting a picture of each forest and its ecological quirks. Animals are brought into the picture, so that the forests become populated with owls and rodents, insects, and reptiles. Vignettes follow, depicting interesting aspects of each forest's ecology (such as the Douglas-fir canopy ecology discovered by researchers at Oregon State). Interspersed with these vignettes are histories of these forests and observations from historical figures such as Muir and Nuttall, along with discussions of the environmental problems the forests

currently face. While these treatments may seem slightly simplistic to an expert, they are appropriate in this book, which is definitely geared towards the interested non-specialist.

Most of the book is understandably focused on northern California and the Sierra, but the conifers of southern California do get some space. In fact, one of Johnston's accomplishments is that she apparently included every California conifer in her book. As for utility, this is the kind of book that would make an excellent present, especially to people who like to hike and want to know more about their surroundings. It would also be useful as a text for natural history or environmental studies classes, especially in the northern and central parts of the state.

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—Frank Landis, Department of Botany, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 430 Lincoln Dr., Madison, WI 53706.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 1997 Jesse M. Greenman Award

The 1997 Jesse M. Greenman Award has been won by Elena Conti for the publication "Circumscription of Myrtales and their relationships to other rosids: Evidence from *rbc*L sequence data", coauthored by E. Conti, A. Litt, and K. J. Sytsma, and published in American Journal of Botany 83(2): 221–233 (1996). This study is based on a Ph.D. dissertation from the University of Wisconsin under the direction of Dr. Kenneth J. Sytsma.

The Greenman Award, a certificate and a cash prize of $1000, is presented each year by the Missouri Botanical Garden. It recognizes the paper judged best in vascular plant or bryophyte systematics based on a doctoral dissertation published during the previous year. Papers published during 1997 are now being accepted for the 30th annual award, which will be presented in the summer of 1998. Reprints of such papers should be sent to Dr. P. Mick Richardson, Greenman Award Committee, Missouri Botanical Garden, P. O. Box 299, St. Louis, Missouri 63166-0299, U.S.A. In order to be considered for the 1998 award, reprints must be received by 1 June 1998.